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BRIERLEY HILL
URBAN
DISTRICT COUNCIL



REPORT on the Works of the **PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

for 1958

J. H. DONNELLY,
Medical Officer of Health

C. H. CRAWFORD
Chief Public Health Inspector
and Cleansing Superintendent

BRIERLEY HILL URBAN DISTRICT
COUNCIL



With the Compliments

of the

Medical Officer of Health

BRIERLEY HILL
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BRIERLEY HILL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

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Vice-Chairman:

COUNCILLOR MRS. M. B. CHILCOTT

Councillors:

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PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

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J. H. DONNELLY, T.D., L.R.C.S. (Ed.), L.R.C.P. (Ed.), L.R.F.P. & s. (Glas.), D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent:

* † C. H. CRAWFORD, M.A.P.H.I.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector:

* † K. WILLIAMS, M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspectors:

* † H. P. GRAYSHON, M.A.P.H.I.

* † D. A. FOGG, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.

* † B. H. HALES, M.A.P.H.I. (Appointed February, 1958)

Student Public Health Inspectors:

E. LEES

N. MILLINER

(Promoted District Public Health Inspectors as from August, 1958)

Veterinary Surgeons:

D. J. ANTHONY, M.R.C.V.S., D.V.S.M., F.R.S.H.

D. HOWIE, M.R.C.V.S., D.V.S.M., F.R.S.H.

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Deputy Analyst:

G. B. THACKRAY, D.Sc., F.R.I.C., County Buildings, Stafford

Clerical Staff:

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MRS. M. G. ANDERSON, MISS M. L. DANIELS,

MRS. J. LAWLEY, MRS. J. WRIGHT

* Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

† Diploma for Smoke Inspectors.

BRIERLEY HILL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1958

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF BRIERLEY HILL.

Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The annual report for 1958 reveals a marked reduction in the notifications of infectious diseases due in the main to there being only 5 cases of measles as compared with 1,063 for 1957.

There has been no recurrence of Paratyphoid B, and it is particularly gratifying that no cases of Poliomyelitis were reported. Protection against the latter has gone on apace, the figure for Brierley Hill within the permissible age groups being approximately 70%.

Tuberculosis notifications were higher than the previous year: this was to be expected as a Mass Radiography Survey was in operation at the end of 1957. The value of continued X-rays of the chest is that not only tuberculosis but a large number of abnormalities of bone and diseases of the heart and circulation are discovered. These are notified by the Director of the Mass Radiography Service to the patients' doctors allowing for early treatment to be established in order that remedial methods can be adopted to alleviate the condition.

It is a pity indeed that many of the older people regard themselves as outside the scope, or, for some other reason, fail to take advantage of the service. One is convinced that because of the industrial hazards, e.g., coal mining, brickmaking, etc., and the number of older persons, both male and female who have been occupied in these trades, there must be "nests" of latent or active tuberculosis. When considering the number of mothers employed in industry who leave their children with grandparents who have not been pronounced clear of tuberculosis it is little wonder that primary infections are transferred from the old to the very young. The evidence of this transfer is not as immediate and dramatic as would happen with say diphtheria or other

infectious disease: the time factor comes into play, and it is often after some years that the child so disposed to infection shews evidence of the disease.

The Medical Director of the Mass Radiography Service reported that 3,847 persons were X-rayed at the 13 centres throughout the district: 104 were recalled for further X-ray and 31 for clinical examination: of these, 14 cases were referred to the Chest Clinic (7 as possibly active tuberculosis, and 7 as possibly in-active tuberculosis) whilst 6 other cases received treatment as in-active tuberculosis.

In regard to the non-tuberculous condition, 14 cases were referred to the Chest Clinic and 14 cases received other treatment as non-tuberculous abnormalities.

It must be borne in mind that these figures include people who reside outside the district.

It is hoped that when the Mass Radiography Unit is again in the area everyone from the age of 12 years upwards will take advantage of this important public service for, by this means, treatment, control, help, and advice are made available.

There are more cancer deaths: it is thought that this is not an increase in rate so much as more accurate diagnosis. It is regretted, however, that many cases come to notice too late to take advantage of modern treatment: obviously, the earlier a diagnosis is made so the chances of effective treatment are made possible.

In conclusion an item of great interest in support of a lengthier expectation of life: of persons normally resident in the district who died in 1958, one in two reached the 70—75 years age group, whilst one in three exceeded the age of 75 years. 106 females and 83 males lived to be over 75 years: this is the natural trend of women living longer than men.

To members of the Council, Mr. Crawford, Officers, and the staff of the Department, I again wish to express appreciation for their willing co-operation.

J. H. DONNELLY,
Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A

Statistics

Registrar-General's estimate of population (mid 1958)	..	..	52,060
Area (in acres)			5,851
Rateable Value			£570,592
Sum represented by Penny Rate 1958-59			£1,906

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1958

		Total	Males	Females
Live Births: Legitimate	856	422	434	
Illegitimate	25	12	13	
	—	—	—	
	881	434	447	
	—	—	—	
Birth Rate per 1,000 population ..	16.92			
Area Comparability Factor	0.96			
Standardized Birth Rate	16.24			
		Total	Males	Females
Still Births: Legitimate	20	10	10	
Illegitimate	1	0	1	
	—	—	—	
	21	10	11	
	—	—	—	
Rate per 1,000 (Live and Still Births)	23.28			
Rate per 1,000 population (Still Births)	0.40			
		Total	Males	Females
Deaths	552	299	253	
Death rate per 1,000 population ..	10.60			
Area Comparability Factor	1.25			
Standardized Death Rate	13.25			
Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:				
All Infants per 1,000 Live Births	23	..	26.10	
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Births	23	..	26.87	
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Births	—	..	—	
Deaths from Measles (all ages) .. .. .. .. ..	..	..	..	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) .. .. .. .. ..	..	..	..	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years) .. .. .. .. ..	..	..	..	2
Deaths from Cancer (all ages) .. .. .. .. ..	..	..	..	98
Deaths from Tuberculosis .. .. .. .. ..	..	..	..	3

NOTES ON VITAL STATISTICS

Births

The Standardized Birth Rate of 16.24 compares with 15.65 for last year. The rate for England and Wales is 16.4.

Deaths

The Standardized Death Rate of 13.25 is higher than that of 11.87 for 1957, there being 66 more deaths. The death rate per 1,000 home population in England and Wales is 11.7.

The most frequent causes continue to be Heart Disease, Intracranial Vascular Lesions, Cancer and Bronchitis. These categories account for 391 deaths.

Natural Increase of Population

The number of Births exceeded the number of Deaths by 329.

Infantile Mortality

The Infantile Mortality Rate of 26.10 per 1,000 live births compares with 22.5 for England and Wales.

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of Live Births</i>	<i>Congenital Conditions</i>	<i>Non- Congenital Conditions</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Rate per 1000 Live Births</i>
1950	769	7	12	19	24.71
1951	749	9	11	20	26.70
1952	762	15	9	24	31.51
1953	773	9	8	17	21.99
1954	744	10	8	18	24.19
1955	666	11	6	17	25.53
1956	710	10	5	15	21.13
1957	834	4	9	13	15.59
1958	881	7	16	23	26.10

Although there were 10 more deaths under 1 year of age than last year, nine come into the category of prematurity, congenital conditions, and birth accident; this in no way should reflect any diminution in the standard of care and treatment of children under 1-year.

Maternal Mortality

One maternal death was recorded during the year.

TABLE I
INFANTILE MORTALITY—TOTAL DEATHS 23

Pre-maturity	Congenital Conditions		Birth Accident		Respiratory		Digestive		Nervous System Meningitis		Total under 1-year		Total under 4-weeks	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0-1 week ..	6	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	1	8	1
1-2 weeks ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
2-3 weeks ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3-4 weeks ..	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	2	1	2
1-2 months ..	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
2-3 months ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
3-4 months ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4-5 months ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
5-6 months ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
6-7 months ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7-8 months ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
8-9 months ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
9-10 months ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10-11 months ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
11-12 months ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1
Total ..	6	—	3	4	3	—	2	3	—	1	1	—	15	8

TABLE II
CAUSES OF DEATH
REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S RETURN

Disease	1958		Total
	Male	Female	
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	2	—	2
Other forms of Tuberculosis	1	—	1
Syphilitic Disease	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infections	1	1	2
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—	—
Malignant Neoplasm—Stomach	13	10	23
Malignant Neoplasm—Lung, Bronchus	12	—	12
Malignant Neoplasm—Breast	—	12	12
Malignant Neoplasm—Uterus	—	5	5
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	22	24	46
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	3	2	5
Diabetes	1	2	3
Vascular lesions of the nervous system	22	44	66
Coronary Disease—Angina	39	36	75
Hypertension with Heart Disease	11	1	12
Other Heart Disease	41	41	82
Other Circulatory Disease	8	8	16
Influenza	2	2	4
Pneumonia	12	11	23
Bronchitis	33	9	42
Other diseases of Respiratory System	6	1	7
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	9	1	10
Gastritis, Enteritis, and Diarrhoea	1	1	2
Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	1	2
Hyperplasia of Prostate	4	—	4
Pregnancy—Childbirth, Abortion	—	1	1
Congenital Malformations	4	6	10
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	35	27	62
Motor Vehicle Accidents	4	—	4
All other accidents	7	4	11
Suicide	4	3	7
Homicide and operations of War	1	—	1
All causes	299	253	552

TABLE III
NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES 1958

Disease	Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-9	10-14	15-24	25 and over	Age unknown	Total	Rate per 1,000 pop. 1958	Rate per 1,000 pop. 1957
Scarlet Fever . .	—	—	—	1	3	14	1	—	—	—	19	0.36	0.31
Whooping Cough . .	2	1	3	1	5	8	—	—	—	—	20	0.38	1.27
Measles	—	1	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	5	0.10	20.77
Dysentery	1	—	2	5	6	6	—	6	—	—	26	0.50	0.02
Food Poisoning . .	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	0.04	—
Meningoceleal Meningitis . .	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	0.02	0.04
Acute Encephalitis:													
Infective . .	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	0.02
Post Infections . .	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	0.04
Pneumonia	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	0.04
Puerperal Pyrexia . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	0.02	0.08

INFECTIOUS DISEASES 1958

Diphtheria

The Table produced is extremely interesting as indicating the trend of public interest in relation to immunisation against this disease.

TABLE IV

Population	Year	NOTIFICATIONS			No. of Deaths
		Received	Confirmed	Not Confirmed	
44,500	1944	62	48	14	4
44,410	1945	106	86	20	4
46,190	1946	34	33	1	2
47,060	1947	30	22	8	2
48,250	1948	21	17	4	1
48,490	1949	4	2	2	—
48,900	1950	5	2	3	—
48,690	1951	2	1	1	—
48,730	1952	3	1	2	—
48,970	1953	4	2	2	1
49,350	1954	—	—	—	—
49,740	1955	1	—	1	—
50,280	1956	—	—	—	—
51,180	1957	—	—	—	—
52,060	1958	—	—	—	—

Immunisation

Immunisation has been carried out by Doctors in the area, and routine immunisation, or re-immunisation of entrants has been carried out in the Schools, while younger children have been dealt with at Infant Welfare Centres of the County Council.

Smallpox

Again it is encouraging to see that there is an increase, although very small, in the number of children vaccinated against smallpox: this, of course, is inadequate, and it is hoped, in the future, that there will be a greater increase in the number of those vaccinated against this disease.

TABLE V

Year	Live Births	Vaccinations	% of Live Births
1954	744	117	15.72
1955	666	109	16.36
1956	710	165	23.24
1957	834	225	26.98
1958	881	345	30.16

TUBERCULOSIS

Notifications

41 notifications were received as compared with 34 for the previous year.

Deaths

There were 3 deaths as compared with 6 deaths in 1957.

TABLE VI

	MALES		FEMALES		<i>Total</i>
	<i>Pulmonary</i>	<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>	<i>Pulmonary</i>	<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>	
Number of Tuberculosis cases on Register at the 1st January, 1958	267	43	230	55	595
New Notifications	19	1	19	1	40
Number restored to Register having been previously removed	—	—	—	—	—
Cases brought to notice otherwise than by formal notification	—	1	—	—	1
Number removed from Register 1958	16	2	13	5	36
Number on Register at 31st December, 1958	270	43	236	51	600

AGE AND SEX OF NEW CASES, DEATHS, AND RECOVERIES FROM TUBERCULOSIS, 1958

TABLE VII

TABLE VIII
T U B E R C U L O S I S
Notifications for the following Years:

Year	Population	Males		Females		Total
		Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	
1936	45,490	34	14	18	9	75
1937	45,880	34	9	26	11	80
1938	46,360	23	8	18	4	53
1939	46,360	26	3	21	3	53
1940	44,340	29	6	19	5	59
1941	45,000	33	5	20	4	62
1942	45,000	28	3	19	3	53
1943	45,000	29	3	18	5	55
1944	44,500	24	5	31	1	61
1945	44,410	31	4	21	5	61
1946	46,190	26	4	37	7	74
1947	47,060	26	4	30	6	66
1948	48,250	21	3	25	3	52
1949	48,490	34	1	25	3	63
1950	48,900	30	2	21	2	55
1951	48,690	39	—	26	5	70
1952	48,730	26	2	22	7	57
1953	48,970	43	2	33	3	81
1954	49,350	28	3	32	2	65
1955	49,740	41	1	15	—	57
1956	50,280	29	—	19	—	48
1957	51,180	15	—	16	3	34
1958	52,060	19	2	19	1	41

TABLE VIII A
Deaths from Tuberculosis for each of the following years:

Year	Population	Males		Females		Total
		Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	
1936	45,490	16	5	9	5	35
1937	45,880	22	2	3	4	31
1938	46,360	27	2	5	1	35
1939	46,360	—	—	—	—	31
1940	44,340	—	—	—	—	34
1941	45,000	—	—	—	—	32
1942	45,000	—	—	—	—	37
1943	45,000	—	—	—	—	39
1944	44,500	19	1	9	3	32
1945	44,410	13	1	17	2	33
1946	46,190	17	2	16	1	36
1947	47,060	9	2	17	1	29
1948	48,250	12	—	15	1	28
1949	48,490	17	5	16	3	41
1950	48,900	9	1	8	3	21
1951	48,690	15	1	8	1	25
1952	48,730	10	1	9	—	20
1953	48,970	6	1	4	2	13
1954	49,350	6	1	1	2	10
1955	49,740	3	—	5	—	8
1956	50,280	2	1	2	—	5
1957	51,180	4	—	2	—	6
1958	52,060	2	1	—	—	3

TABLE IX

Total Deaths from Malignant Disease (Cancer)

<i>Year</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Per cent of total Deaths</i>
1936	45,490	30	24	54	11.38
1937	45,880	29	31	60	11.67
1938	46,360	32	39	71	14.64
1939	46,360	26	28	54	10.65
1940	44,340	35	30	65	10.36
1941	45,000	45	28	73	13.51
1942	45,000	44	25	69	14.28
1943	45,000	29	30	59	11.24
1944	44,500	41	43	84	17.00
1945	44,410	30	38	68	12.64
1946	46,190	30	32	62	12.58
1947	47,060	31	47	78	15.00
1948	48,250	41	38	79	16.99
1949	48,490	41	37	78	13.85
1950	48,900	59	30	89	15.61
1951	48,690	46	33	79	13.62
1952	48,730	41	34	75	14.76
1953	48,970	39	28	67	14.63
1954	49,350	54	30	84	17.61
1955	49,740	50	35	85	16.25
1956	50,280	52	37	89	18.65
1957	51,180	43	46	89	18.31
1958	52,060	47	51	98	17.75

Deaths from Cancer of the Lungs and Bronchus

(Extracted from Table IX)

<i>Year</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
1950	48,900	10	—	10
1951	48,690	9	—	9
1952	48,730	16	1	17
1953	48,970	12	1	13
1954	49,350	15	1	16
1955	49,740	16	—	16
1956	50,280	16	—	16
1957	51,180	21	2	23
1958	52,060	40/2	—	12

TABLE X

Deaths from Tuberculosis, Cancer and Heart and Circulatory Diseases for each of the following years:

Year	Population	Tuberculosis				Cancer				Heart and Circulatory Diseases				Per cent of total Deaths	
		Total	Female	Male	Rate per 1,000 pop.	Total	Female	Male	Rate per 1,000 pop.	Total	Female	Male	Rate per 1,000 pop.		
1936	45,490	21	14	35	0.77	30	24	54	1.18	89	18.43	71	68	139	3.06
1937	45,880	24	7	31	0.68	29	31	60	1.31	91	17.70	70	69	139	3.03
1938	46,360	29	6	35	0.75	32	39	71	1.53	106	21.86	66	71	137	2.96
1939	46,360	—	—	31	0.66	26	28	54	1.16	85	16.77	95	91	186	4.01
1940	44,340	—	—	34	0.77	35	30	65	1.46	99	18.64	75	81	156	3.52
1941	45,000	—	—	32	0.71	45	28	73	1.63	105	19.52	87	82	169	3.75
1942	45,000	—	—	37	0.82	44	25	69	1.53	106	21.95	72	75	147	3.27
1943	45,000	—	—	39	0.87	29	30	59	1.32	98	18.67	88	73	161	3.58
1944	44,500	20	12	32	0.72	41	43	84	1.88	116	23.48	83	67	150	3.37
1945	44,410	14	19	33	0.74	30	38	68	1.52	101	18.77	78	97	175	3.94
1946	46,190	19	17	36	0.78	30	32	62	1.34	98	19.88	75	81	156	3.38
1947	47,060	11	18	29	0.62	31	47	78	1.66	107	20.58	87	88	175	3.72
1948	48,250	12	16	28	0.58	41	38	79	1.64	107	23.01	70	75	145	3.01
1949	48,490	22	19	41	0.85	41	37	78	1.55	119	21.14	97	74	171	3.53
1950	48,900	10	11	21	0.43	59	30	89	1.82	110	19.30	116	98	214	4.38
1951	48,690	16	9	25	0.51	46	33	79	1.62	104	17.93	139	116	255	5.24
1952	48,730	11	9	20	0.41	41	34	75	1.53	95	18.70	110	94	204	4.18
1953	48,970	7	6	13	0.27	39	28	67	1.37	80	17.47	89	100	189	3.86
1954	49,350	7	3	10	0.20	54	30	84	1.70	94	19.71	102	99	201	4.07
1955	49,740	3	5	8	0.16	50	35	85	1.71	93	17.78	94	113	207	4.16
1956	50,280	3	2	5	0.10	52	37	89	1.77	94	19.71	102	104	206	4.1
1957	51,180	4	2	6	0.12	43	46	89	1.74	95	19.55	110	109	219	4.28
1958	52,060	3	3	0.06	47	51	98	1.88	101	18.30	121	130	251	4.82	45.47
Total Deaths from all Causes															465
1936	..	483	..	483	..	1942	..	1943	..	1944	..	1945	..	1946	477
1937	..	514	..	525	..	1943	..	1944	..	1945	..	1946	..	1947	523
1938	..	485	..	494	..	1944	..	1945	..	1946	..	1947	..	1948	477
1939	..	507	..	538	..	1945	..	1946	..	1947	..	1948	..	1949	552
1940	..	531	..	493	..	1946	..	1947	..	1948	..	1949	..	1950	552
1941	..	538	..	520	..	1947	..	1948	..	1949	..	1950	..	1951	552
1942	..	520	..	520	..	1948	..	1949	..	1950	..	1951	..	1952	552
1943	..	525	..	525	..	1949	..	1950	..	1951	..	1952	..	1953	552

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

The County Council through its Area Medical Officer is responsible for the administration of the following health services:

- Health Centres
- Care of Mothers and Young Children
- Midwifery
- Health Visiting
- Home Nursing
- Prevention of illness, care and after care
- Domestic Help
- Vaccination and Immunisation
- Ambulance Service
- Mental Health Service

Close liaison between this Department and the Area Health Office was maintained.

Hospitals

Administration of Hospitals and Specialist Services is the responsibility of the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board.

The Hospitals serving the district are as follows:

- Wordsley Hospital, Brierley Hill
- Guest Hospital, Dudley.
- Corbett Hospital, Amblecote.

Other Hospitals within easy reach are those of Birmingham and Wolverhampton.

Cases of infectious diseases are referred to Isolation Hospitals, e.g., Moxley Hospital, Wednesbury and Hayley Green Hospital, Halesowen.

Maternity and Nursing Homes

There are no Nursing Homes in the area. Maternity cases are admitted to Wordsley Hospital, and to the Rosemary Ednam Maternity Home at Dudley.

Tuberculosis

Sanatoria are provided at Kinver, Groundslow, Prestwood, and Himley. Cases of surgical tuberculosis are treated at Standon Hall and The Woodlands. Dispensaries are situated at Dudley and Wolverhampton.

Post Mortem Room

69 bodies were admitted to the Post Mortem Room during the year. The causes of death were as follows:

Natural causes	....	....	....	50
Asphyxia	....	....	....	1
Accident	....	....	....	1
Murder	....	....	....	1
Suicide	....	....	....	6
Misadventure	....	....	....	2
Cause unknown (out of area)	....			8

Laboratory Facilities

The Public Health Laboratory Service continues to deal with the pathological and bacteriological specimens sent from this area.

The chemical analysis of samples taken under the Food and Drugs Act is undertaken by the County Analyst, who acts for the Urban District.

National Assistance Act

No action was required under Section 47 of this Act which provides for compulsory removal to hospital of those unable to look after themselves.

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA

Water Supply

The District is served by two Companies. The Stourbridge and District Water Board supply 2,822 houses at Wordsley, while the rest of the area is served by the South Staffordshire Water Board. In both cases the supply comes from deep wells and bore-holes in the new red sandstone to depths varying from 200 feet to 500 feet. The water is examined regularly and has continued to be of a high standard of purity.

The following are typical analyses:

STOURBRIDGE AND DISTRICT WATER BOARD

Coli Aerogenes Content (presumptive coli) after
48-hours incubation at 37 deg. Cent. . . Nil per 100 M.L.

Analysis

pH Value	..	..	..	..	7.4	Parts per 100,000
Total solid matter dried at 212 deg. F.	..	..	..	..	39.0	
Free and Saline Ammonia	..	..	..	..	Nil	
Albuminoid	..	..	..	..	Nil	
Nitric Nitrogen	..	..	..	..	0.90	
Chlorine present as Chloride	..	..	..	..	3.5	
Oxygen absorbed in 4-hours at 80 deg. F.	..	..	..	..	Nil	
Appearance	..	..	..	..	Clear and colourless	
Metallic Contamination	..	..	..	..	Nil	
Total Hardness	..	..	..	..	19.5 deg.	
Permanent Hardness	..	..	..	..	14.4 deg.	
Temporary Hardness	..	..	..	..	5.1 deg.	

SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE WATER BOARD

Coli Aerogenes Content (presumptive coli) after
48-hours incubation at 37 deg. Cent. . . Nil per 100 M.L.

Analysis

pH Value	..	..	..	..	6.9
<i>Parts per 100,000</i>					
Total solid matter dried at 212 deg. F.	..	40.0			
Free and Saline Ammonia	..	Nil			
Albuminoid	..	..	..	..	Nil
Nitric Nitrogen	..	..	..	..	0.95
Chlorine present as Chloride	..	..	..	..	4.5
Oxygen absorbed in 4-hours at 80-degs. F.	..	..	..	..	Nil
Appearance	..	..	..	..	Clear and colourless
Metallic Contamination	..	..	..	..	Nil
Total Hardness	..	..	..	..	18.22 deg.
Permanent Hardness	..	..	..	..	13.12 deg.
Temporary Hardness	..	..	..	..	5.10 deg.

Drainage and Sewage Disposal

The Surveyor states that during the year the following works were carried out:

Relief Sewers completed:

Heathbrook Pumping Station to Moss Grove, Kingswinford.
Blewitt Street to Commonsode, Pensnett.

Surface Water Sewers laid:

Maidensbridge Road to Cross Street, Wallheath.
Dunns Bank, Quarry Bank.

Public Cleansing

The Chief Public Health Inspector is also the Cleansing Superintendent and details of the work carried out will be found in his report.

SECTION D

HOUSING

The Architect and Housing Director has kindly supplied the following information:

During the year 248 houses have been completed.

The total of post-war dwellings completed is now as follows:

2,541 Permanent Traditional	}	Total 3,002
248 Permanent New Traditional		
46 Permanent New Traditional Flats		
40 Permanent Aluminium Bungalows		
24 Temporary Aluminium Bungalows		
100 Temporary Asbestos Bungalows		
3 Shops		

807 houses were completed in 1958 and 471 were in course of construction at the end of the year—the breakdown of these figures is:

	1958	Total	1957	Total	Inc. over 1957
Council houses completed ..	248	—	203	—	—
Private houses completed ..	559	807	452	655	152
Council houses under construction	249	—	182	—	—
Private houses under construction	222	471	212	394	77
Total Post-War Council houses ..	3,002	—	2,710	—	—
Total Post-War Private houses ..	2,086	5,088	1,527	4,237	851

The increase in building is very gratifying as this has afforded so much increased accommodation and better living conditions.

SECTION E

LIVE AND DEAD MEAT INSPECTION

Two Veterinary Officers are employed by the Council to inspect live animals and carcases at a large factory in the area.

The Chief Veterinary Surgeon reports as follows:

The number of animals inspected during the year showed an increase of 9,556, over the previous year: this increase being in cattle and pigs, whereas sheep and calves show a slight decrease in numbers as compared with the year 1957. The animals inspected consisted of 238,178 pigs, 2,813 cattle, 6,851 sheep and 177 calves, with a few odd poultry, making a total of nearly a quarter-of-a-million animals.

The diseases encountered, and the numbers of carcases and parts destroyed, together with their weights, are all shown in some detail in the accompanying tables. The general quality of the animals slaughtered is very good, and it is gratifying to note the drop in cattle tuberculosis incidence to as low as 3 %, and that of pigs to 2%. The eradication measures adopted throughout the country are bearing fruit, even in the pig world.

Over 2,000 certificates were issued on behalf of the Local Authority, for the export of meat and meat products to various parts of the world, during the last eight months of the year. Where required, Research workers received help during the year, in the supply of material, such as Sow Blood samples for a Government Departmental Research worker; supplies of *A. lumbricoides* were provided for the Zoology Department of Liverpool University; *Corinnybacterium* infected lymph nodes from pigs to the Royal Veterinary College & Hospital, London; Pig Embryos to the Anatomy Department of a London Teaching Hospital Medical School.

Bacteriological and other inspections

During the year some special post-mortem examinations have been carried out at the request of the animal owners, e.g., certain pig breeders, who are endeavouring to eradicate the disease Virus Pneumonia from their herds, like to know whether their animals sent for slaughter are clear of the disease. Other examinations concern emergency slaughter cases, etc. These special post-mortem examinations amount to:

Pigs ..	..	..	..	440
Sheep ..	..	..	..	4
Cattle ..	..	..	..	2
Calves ..	..	..	..	1
Poultry ..	..	..	..	2

Microscopic examinations were carried out on 97 pig carcases, 1 sheep, 14 cattle, and 7 samples of pie and sausage meat.

No Scheduled or contagious disease was reported during the year. In conclusion I desire to thank Mr. David Howie, and all concerned for their continued help.

PIGS—(continued)

Disease	Carcases	Heads	Lungs	Hearts	Livers	Stomachs	Spleens	Kidneys	Intestines	Other Parts
Arthritis	8 Forequarters 6 Hindquarters
Septicaemia	23	23	23	23	23	46	23	18 Forequarters 1 Hindquarter
Contamination	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..
Fascioliasis	17	..	..	..	2 Forequarters 4 Hindquarters
Bruising	5	2	..	..	..	..	..	..
Emaciation	8	7	7	7	7	14	7	..
Jaundice	6	6	6	6	6	6	12	6
Sarcoma	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	..
Paratyphoid	3	3	3	3	3	3	6	3
Decomposition	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Uraemia	3	3	3	3	3	3	6	3
Ascarides
Enteritis
Toxaemia	2	2	2	2	2	2	4	2
Hepatitis
Dermatitis	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1
Varioha suis	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1
Dead in lairage	31	31	31	31	31	31	62	31
Dead in transit	198	198	198	198	198	198	396	198
Total	..	514	4,345	45,971	12,931	21,999	8,732	7,223	16,496	14,940 422 Forequarters 139 Hindquarters

SHEEP

Details of diseases and meat condemned from 6,851 sheep:

Disease	Carcasses						Other Parts					
	Heads	Lungs	Necks	livers	Stomachs	Spleens	Kidneys	Intestines				
Mucoidia	102	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pneumonia, etc.	51	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pericarditis
Fascioliasis
Hydatid Cysts
Fatty Infiltration
Empyema
Peritonitis	2	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..
Arthritis
Emaciation, etc.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Gangrene	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Abscess	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Mastitis	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Contamination	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Died in transit	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20
Total	..	26	30	185	35	600	26	26	52	26	3	3
											Forequarters	Hindquarters

TABLE XI—*continued*
CATTLE

Details of diseases and meat condemned from 2,813 Cattle:

Disease	Carcasses	Heads	Lungs	Hearts	Livers	Stomachs	Spleens	Kidneys	Intestines	Other Parts
Actinobacillosis	10	27	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 Tongue
Tuberculosis	76	94	—	—	38	—	24	—	21	5 Forequarters
Pneumonia, etc.	—	102	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 Forequarter
Pericarditis	—	—	—	—	17	—	—	—	—	—
Fascioliasis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bacterial Necrosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Haemangiomata	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Peritonitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hydatid Cysts	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hydronephrosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cysticerasis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Eputis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gastritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cirrhosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bruising	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jaundice	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	2	1 Shin
Abscess	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Contamination	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Myocarditis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Toxaemia	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mastitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	15 Udders
Total	13	120	224	81	734	57	68	29	91	1 Tongue 6 Forequarters 1 Shin 15 Udders

C A L V E S

Details of diseases and meat condemned from 177 calves:

TABLE XI (*continued*)

<i>Disease</i>	<i>Carcasses</i>	<i>Heads</i>	<i>Lungs</i>	<i>Hearts</i>	<i>Livers</i>	<i>Stomachs</i>	<i>Spleens</i>	<i>Kidneys</i>	<i>Intestines</i>	<i>Other Parts</i>
Tuberculosis Gen.	..	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1
Oedema, etc.	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	4	2
Fatty Infiltration	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Immaturity	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1
Died in lairage	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1
Died in transit	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	6	3
Total ..	8	8	8	8	9	8	8	16	8	—

TABLE XII

The relative importance of the diseases encountered in the various species of animals, is shown in the following tables of percentages to the total number killed:

PIGS	SHEEP
Pneumonia and Pleurisy	14.0%
Hydronephrosis . . .	6.0%
Congestion of Lungs, etc.	4.0%
Peritonitis . . .	4.0%
Pericarditis . . .	4.0%
Cirrhosis . . .	3.0%
Tuberculosis . . .	2.0%
Fatty Infiltration . . .	1.0%
Empyema . . .	1.0%
Hydatid Cysts . . .	0.06%
Abscess . . .	0.06%
Swine Erysipelas . . .	0.01%
Strongylosis . . .	0.01%
Pyaemia . . .	0.01%
Fractures . . .	0.009%
Septicaemia . . .	0.009%
Nephritis . . .	0.008%
Contamination . . .	0.007%
Fascioliasis . . .	0.006%
Bruising . . .	0.005%
Arthritis . . .	0.005%
Haemangioma . . .	0.004%
Endocarditis . . .	0.003%
Emaciation . . .	0.003%
Jaundice . . .	0.002%
Sarcoma . . .	0.001%
Paratyphoid . . .	0.001%
Uraemia . . .	0.001%
Ascarides . . .	0.001%
Enteritis . . .	0.0008%
Toxaemia . . .	0.0008%
Hepatitis . . .	0.0008%
Myocarditis . . .	0.0004%
Decomposition . . .	0.0004%
Dermatitis . . .	0.0004%
Variola Suis . . .	0.0004%
Dead in lairage . . .	0.01%
Dead in transit . . .	0.07%
	Dead in transit . . . 0.1%
	Fascioliasis . . . 8.0%
	Muelleriasis . . . 1.0%
	Pneumonia, etc. . . 0.5%
	Fatty Infiltration . . . 0.08%
	Peritonitis . . . 0.07%
	Pericarditis . . . 0.05%
	Hydatid Cysts . . . 0.05%
	Abseess . . . 0.03%
	Contamination . . . 0.03%
	Empyema . . . 0.02%
	Gangrene . . . 0.02%
	Arthritis . . . 0.01%
	Emaciation, etc. . . 0.01%
	Mastitis . . . 0.01%

Percentage of disease found in:

CATTLE		CALVES		
Fascioliasis	17.0%	Oedema .. ..	..	1.0%
Tuberculosis	3.0%	Tuberculosis .. ..	..	0.5%
Pneumonia, etc.	3.0%	Fatty Infiltration .. ..	..	0.5%
Bac. Necrosis	2.0%	Immaturity .. ..	..	0.5%
Haemangioma	2.0%	Dead in lairage .. ..	..	0.5%
Peritonitis	2.0%	Dead in transit .. ..	..	1.0%
Actinobacillosis	1.0%			
Hydatid Cysts	0.7%			
Pericarditis	0.5%			
Mastitis	0.4%			
Cysticeriasis	0.4%			
Gastritis	0.3%			
Contamination	0.06%			
Myocarditis	0.03%			
Toxaemia	0.03%			
Hydronephrosis	0.03%			
Eputis	0.03%			
Cirrhosis	0.03%			
Bruising	0.03%			
Jaundice	0.03%			
Abscess	0.03%			

TABLE XIII

Post-mortem examinations of animals dead on arrival, and in lairages before slaughter:

<i>Cause of Death</i>	<i>Cattle</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Total</i>
Metritis	—	—	—	2	2
Pneumonia and Pleurisy	—	—	3	81	84
Syncope	—	—	1	85	86
Enteritis	—	1	2	6	9
Toxaemia	—	—	10	24	34
Internal Haemorrhage	—	—	1	18	19
Septicaemia	—	1	2	—	3
Asphyxia	—	—	—	6	6
Fascioliasis	—	—	1	—	1
Pyaemia	—	—	—	1	1
Dropsy	—	—	—	1	1
Brueellosis	—	2	—	—	2
Swine Erysipelas	—	—	—	4	4
Bowel Oedema	—	—	—	1	1
Total	—	4	20	229	253

TABLE XIV

Weight of condemned meat:

	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>Qrs.</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>	<i>Ozs.</i>
Beef	14	11	2	23	8
Veal	—	1	1	22	8
Mutton	1	—	1	1	—
Pork and Bacon	158	1	2	15	14
Total	173	15	—	6	14
Meat condemned from other areas	57	15	2	19	—
Meat condemned from other areas	—	2	1	12	—
Total	231	13	—	9	14

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND CLEANSING SUPERINTENDENT

The succeeding pages of this report give facts and figures relating to the work of the Public Health Inspectors during 1958. They do not, however, indeed they cannot, convey the personal service given to individual members of the public in their houses, the advice to shop-keepers, to factory managements and others during the day to day activities of the Inspectors. The efficacy of the informal and tactful approach is reflected in the amount of improvements achieved with very little resort to court proceedings.

The most tangible benefit of the department's work is perhaps the rehousing of families from unfit houses into modern houses and the prevention of further use of those houses by their irrevocable demolition. It is very pleasing to report record progress in this work. I should like to have seen similar progress in providing modern amenities (bathrooms, hot water systems and internal water closets) to the many old fashioned, but solidly constructed houses in this district.

A good start has also been made with the implementation of the Clean Air Act. On the industrial side rapid progress has been made, and the long emissions of black smoke formerly common are largely a thing of the past. On the domestic front progress must inevitably be slow and the reduction in air pollution which will follow the gradual establishment of Smoke Control Orders will probably not be very obvious for four or five years. The Report of the Committee on Air Pollution (Chairman Sir Hugh Beaver) stated that nearly half of all smoke comes from domestic chimneys and the discharge of this tarry smoke at low level accentuates its harmful effects. The amount of smoke from each chimney may be small but in total the emissions cause serious pollution and undoubtedly are a contributory factor to much ill health.

With full staff for the second half of the year it was possible to make good some of the arrears of previous years and my thanks are due to all members of the staff for the good service they have given.

I must also put on record the support I have received from the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee who have never faltered in their job of authorising and if necessary defending the many details of action taken on their behalf. I also acknowledge the continued co-operation of all other Departments.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

Complaints

513 complaints were received as compared with 497 in 1957. 279 of these concerned drain stoppages, which were promptly dealt with by a workman from this Department. No charge is made for this service.

Drain stoppages	279
General defects to houses	157
Industrial nuisances, noise, etc.	2
Accumulations	16
Offensive odours	21
Overcrowding	2
Insect infestation	15
Roadside caravan dwellers	1
Smoke nuisances	6
Miscellaneous	14

Action taken—

Informal Notices	253
Statutory Notices	
Section 24	1
Section 39	2
Section 44	3
Section 45	3
Section 93	39

Repairs were carried out to the Drains and Cesspool serving 10 houses and a new Aeration Filter provided.

Clean Air Act, 1956

Little progress was made with this Act until the Autumn when one of the District Inspectors who had obtained the Smoke Inspectors Certificate of the Royal Society of Health was detailed to devote his full time to air pollution prevention.

In November seven Smoke Control Orders were made affecting 969 houses in newly developed private or council estates. Grants of seven tenths of the costs of adaptations will be made to the owners of seven older houses adjoining new houses and included in order to make a reasonable boundary. All the new houses have been fitted with approved appliances capable of burning smokeless fuel in accordance with the Building Byelaws.

Details of the Orders are as follows:

- No. 1. 13.5 acres of land—(130 new Council houses) at Moor Street, Brierley Hill.
- No. 2. 6.1 acres of land—(74 new private houses) at Wychbury Road, Quarry Bank.
- No. 3. 10.1 acres of land—(96 new Council houses) at Orchard Street, Brierley Hill.
- No. 4. 36.5 acres of land—(199 new private houses, five old houses and an ambulance station) at Stream Road, Kingswinford.
- No. 5. 34.1 acres of land—(204 Council houses, 3 private houses, an engineering and chain making works) at Birch Tree Coppice and Sheffield Street, Quarry Bank. The land, subject to Clearance Areas, was included so that new houses built on the sites of the old ones will be smokeless.
- No. 6. 13.4 acres of land—(80 new private houses) at Lawnsdown Road, Quarry Bank.
- No. 7. 34.1 acres of land (176 new Council houses and 2 old cottages) at Tack Farm Estate, Wordsley.

These Orders have been made in accordance with the Council's declared policy that as far as possible all new housing development should be smokeless. Owing to the cumbersome procedure laid down by the Act, none of the Orders will be operative until January, 1960.

So far as smoke from industrial premises is concerned, this is now controlled by the Dark Smoke (Permitted Periods) Regulations, 1958, which came into force on June 1st, 1958. It is now an offence to emit black smoke for more than two minutes in any half hour or dark smoke continuously for more than four minutes in any half hour, or dark smoke for more than ten minutes in any eight hour period. This is a much higher standard than was previously enforceable and some boiler men have found difficulty in complying, seven contraventions being noted during 46 observations. Advice has been given in all these cases and warnings issued. The Regulations do not apply to hand-fired brick kilns, blue brick kilns or to steel making furnaces.

In accordance with Section 3 notifications have been received in respect of five new furnaces and in four cases details were submitted for prior approval which was granted.

Plans of new industrial buildings continue to be examined and where necessary the applicants are informed of the requirements of the Act.

Details of the records of sulphur dioxide pollution obtained by means of six lead peroxide gauges are shown in Table I. Arrangements were made to resume volumetric recording in 1959.

TABLE I

LEAD PEROXIDE SO₂ RECORDERSResults as Mg. of SO₃/Day collected by 100 sq. cm.

1958	<i>Station Number</i>					
	1	2	3	4	5	6
January	1.99	1.60	1.94	1.64	2.52	1.34
February	2.16	1.50	1.72	1.77	2.05	1.18
March	1.89	1.58	1.76	1.77	2.26	1.96
April	2.72	1.24	1.93	1.77	2.04	1.21
May	2.02	1.17	0.94	0.83	1.13	0.78
June	1.14	0.84	0.80	0.84	1.05	0.68
July	0.53	1.11	0.36	1.59	0.76	0.45
August	0.94	0.48	0.60	0.64	0.68	0.41
September	0.64	0.50	1.03	1.01	1.38	0.79
October	1.67	1.04	1.24	1.30	1.37	0.56
November	2.72	1.51	2.15	1.91	2.60	1.50
December	3.14	1.85	2.16	1.54	2.70	1.61
Yearly Average:						
1958	1.80	1.20	1.38	1.38	1.71	1.04
1957	2.16	1.22	1.64	1.30	2.04	1.45

Water Supplies

Samples of the water supply from the public mains were submitted for analysis as follows:

	<i>Chemical</i>	<i>Bacteriological</i>
The South Staffordshire Waterworks Company	4	3
Stourbridge & District Water Board ..	4	4
Wordsley Hospital	4	7

Infectious Disease Prevention

163 visits were made to cases of Infectious Disease, 20 houses were disinfected.

3 houses were sprayed for the elimination of bed bugs, 20 for fleas and 33 for cockroaches, ants, etc.

Moveable Dwellings

Licences operative during the year were as follows:

				<i>Number of Licences</i>	<i>Caravans</i>
Kingfisher Camping Site, Wallheath . . . . .	..	..	..	1	150
11, Mount Pleasant, Kingswinford . . . . .	..	..	..	1	1
112, Mount Pleasant, Kingswinford . . . . .	..	..	..	1	1
Woods Lane, Quarry Bank . . . . .	..	..	..	1	12
“May View,” Thorns Road, Quarry Bank . . . . .	..	..	..	2	2
“The Woodlands,” Cot Lane, Wordsley . . . . .	..	..	..	1	1
8, Turk Street, Brierley Hill . . . . .	..	..	..	1	1
Plantation, Pensnett . . . . .	..	..	..	1	1
Poplars Dairy, Brierley Hill Road, Wordsley . . . . .	..	..	..	1	1
Mile End House, Enville Road, Wallheath . . . . .	..	..	..	1	1

HOUSING

This work is in full swing and 552 houses were reported as unfit for human habitation a record figure exceeding that of any previous year. Of this total, 229 were dealt with as individual houses, Demolition or Closing Orders being made and the remainder were included in 15 Clearance Areas which later were the subject of Compulsory Purchase Orders.

This activity reflects the priority which the Council have given to the clearance of unfit houses in accordance with the five year programme.

As a result of the allocation of all new houses for the purpose, 455 persons were rehoused from 164 condemned houses into 170 Council owned houses.

It is unfortunate that all housing work is still concentrated on clearance and no routine reconditioning was undertaken.

The Orders made are detailed in the following paragraphs and in Table II.

DETAILS OF THE YEAR'S WORK

Housing Act, 1957

Section 17 (Demolition Orders)

229 houses were represented as being unfit and 213 Demolition Orders were made on the following:

BRIERLEY HILL

- 25, 29, 31, 35, 53, 55, 57, 59, 61, Level Street.
- 103, 105, 107, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, 83, Dudley Road.
- 18, 20, Bank Street.
- 10, 61, 65, 67, 69, 71, Delph Lane.
- 110, 112, 114, 140, 130, 132, Delph Road.
- 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, High Street.
- 2, 4, Terraee Street.
- 2, 4, 6, 20, Pearson Street.
- 1 "A" Court, 2 "A" Court, Fenton Street.
- 25, 27, 29, 35, 37, Moor Street.
- 5, 6, 7, "A" Court, South Street.
- 388, 392, 394, 396, 422, 424, 426, 434, 436, Stourbridge Road.
- 1, 2, Victoria Street.
- 2, "C" Court, Albion Street.
- 9, Chapel Street.
- 1, 2, 3, Bloomers Terraee, Bent Street.
- 2, 12, 14, 16, 18, The Goss.
- 5, 9, Turk Street.
- 24, 26, 28, John Street.

PENSNETT

- 77, 78, 79, 82, 83, Commonside.
- 1, 3, 5, 46, 48, 52, Swan Street.
- 41, 43, 45, 47, 49, 51, 53, Corbys Hall Road.
- 33, 34, 35, High Oak.
- 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 17, 19, 20, Chapel Street.

BROCKMOOR

- 53, 54, Campbell Street.
- 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, High Street.
- 25, 30, Cressett Lane.

QUARRY BANK

- 85, 86, 92, 101, 102, 183, 214, 215, 216, 217, High Street.
- 66, 67, 72, Belle Vue Road.
- 1, 3, 5, 17, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 79, 93, 95, 97, Bower Lane.
- 65, 69, Sheffield Street.
- 38, 39, 63, 64, 65, New Street.
- 5, 29, 30, 31, 32, 54, 67, 68, 76, 77, Maughan Street.
- 77E, 241, Amblecote Road.
- 11A, Victoria Road.

QUARRY BANK (*continued*)

- 15, 30, Birch Coppice.
- 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, Evers Street.
- 56, 58, Thorns Road.
- 4, East Street.
- 3, Hill Street.
- 4, 5, Stour Hill.
- 11, 12, Rose Hill.
- 12, 13, 14, Oak Street.
- 1, King Street.
- 8, 10, 12, 14, Merry Hill
- 1, Astons Fold.
- 90, Coppice Lane.

WORDSLY

- 29, Buckpool.
- 2, 3, 4, 5, High Street.
- 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, Brettell Lane.

KINGSWINFORD

- 22, 25, Bromley Lane.
- Rear No. 40, Moss Grove.
- 1, The Oak.
- 105, Cot Lane.

WALLHEATH

One Caravan, Kingfisher Caravan Site.

15 Closing Orders were made in lieu of Demolition Orders.

- 18, Cressett Lane, Brockmoor.
- 80, Orchard Street, Brockmoor.
- 13, The Leys, Brockmoor.
- 31A, Stour Hill, Quarry Bank.
- 114, New Street, Quarry Bank.
- 83, High Street, Quarry Bank.
- 3, Maughan Street, Quarry Bank.
- 162, Delph Road, Brierley Hill.
- 25, Chapel Street, Brierley Hill.
- 161, Dudley Road, Brierley Hill.
- 58, 60, Swan Street, Pensnett.
- 7, Hollies Street, Pensnett.
- 16, Chapel Street, Pensnett.
- 123, Brettell Lane, Wordsley.

In respect of 194, Brettell Lane, Wordsley, an Undertaking to demolish was accepted as a matter of urgency owing to its dangerous condition.

The Council accepted two proposals for the conversion of back to back houses, and three applications to make fit sub-standard houses were approved.

- 122, Commonside, Pensnett—Undertaking cancelled.
- 81, 83 and 85, Fenton Street, Brierley Hill—Closing Orders rescinded.
- 107A, Mount Pleasant, Kingswinford—Closing Order rescinded.

Section 42 (Clearance Areas)

AREA NO.	QUARRY BANK						
44	57—63 ..	..	..	..	..	..	High Street
	1—9 ..	..	..	..	..	..	Sheffield Street
45	15—21 ..	..	..	..	..	..	East Street
46	24—26 ..	..	..	..	..	..	East Street
47	16—23 ..	..	..	..	..	..	Brickkiln Street
48	11A—16A, 11—22	..	..	..	..	..	Evers Street
	11, 13, 14, ..	..	..	..	..	..	Cradley Forge
49	16, 17 ..	..	..	..	..	..	Cradley Forge
	10 ..	..	..	..	..	..	Hammer Bank

BRIERLEY HILL

50	58—66, 70—84 ..	..	..	..	..	..	Mill Street
	2—12, 16—28, 32—40, 13, 15, 17, 2, 3, "C" Court, 1 "D" Court, 1 "E" Court ..	..	..	..	..	..	Brickkiln Street
	3—15, 1, 2, 3, "A" Court, 19—33, 2—42, 1, 2, "F" Court, 35—63, 60, 39A ..	..	..	..	..	..	Chapel Street
	1, 3, ..	..	..	..	..	..	Hill Street
	4—10 ..	..	..	..	..	..	Dean Street
51	2—24, 11, ..	..	..	..	..	..	Potter Street
	37 ..	..	..	..	..	..	Hill Street
52	15—21, 27, 29, 33, 37, 28—36 ..	..	..	..	..	..	Potter Street
	51—65, 8—10, 44—66 ..	..	..	..	..	..	Hill Street
	17—43, 51—63, 12—42 ..	..	..	..	..	..	New Street
	1—11, Oakfield Avenue ..	..	..	..	..	..	New Street
	1, ..	..	..	..	..	..	Derry Street
53	1—7, 10—18 ..	..	..	..	..	..	Rocks Hill
	41, 43, 45, ..	..	..	..	..	..	Potter Street
54	25 ..	..	..	..	..	..	Rocks Hill
	162—170 ..	..	..	..	..	..	Delph Road
55	38—50 ..	..	..	..	..	..	Potter Street
56	1, 2, 3, 4, 6, "B" Court ..	..	..	..	..	..	South Street
57	1—5, 13—37, 45, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, "A" Court ..	..	..	..	..	..	South Street
	54—66, 73 ..	..	..	..	..	..	New Street
58	11—25, 26, 28 ..	..	..	..	..	..	Hill Street

TABLE II
HOUSING ACTS
SUMMARY OF ACTION TAKEN 1930—1958

Year	Demolition Orders	Section 17		Clearance Areas No. of Houses	Informal Action No. of Houses	Total	Houses Closed	Houses Demolished	Persons Displaced
		Under-takings	Sec's 18 & 19 Closing Orders						
*1930—1933 ..	143	14	15	54	18	244	12	129	767
1934 ..	50	4	1	10	10	75	1	89	270
1935 ..	266	21	60	60	6	413	39	53	719
1936 ..	281	29	47	142	6	505	39	262	1536
1937 ..	200	15	9	119	4	347	9	358	2053
1938 ..	143	38	6	235	1	423	28	479	1825
1939 ..	74	11	—	—	—	85	6	228	484
1940—1947 ..	8	7	1	—	2	18	8	88	133
1948—1954 ..	225	17	11	33	15	301	23	334	1366
1955 ..	64	3	10	159	15	251	12	84	179
1956 ..	49	1	5	—	1	56	8	21	128
1957 ..	20	—	3	—	5	28	6	31	435
1958 ..	213	1	15	323	—	552	6	119	455
1736	161	183	1135	83	3298	197	2275	10350	

* Prior to Amalgamation.

Overcrowding

At the end of 1958 there were 22 known cases of statutory overcrowding, as set out in the following table:

	<i>Council Houses</i>	<i>Private Houses</i>	<i>Total</i>
At 31st December, 1957	10	11	21
New cases	1	—	1
	—	—	—
	11	11	22
Cases abated	—	—	—
	—	—	—
Total cases at 31st December, 1958	11	11	22
	—	—	—

There were 41 known cases of sex over-crowding at the end of 1958:

	<i>One Bedroom Houses</i>	<i>Two Bedroom Houses</i>	<i>Total</i>
At 31st December, 1957	9	32	41
New cases	—	2	2
	—	—	—
	9	34	43
Cases abated	—	2	2
	—	—	—
Total cases at 31st December, 1958	9	32	41
	—	—	—

RENT ACT, 1957

FIRST SCHEDULE

Year ended 31st December, 1958

PART I—APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATES OF DISREPAIR

(1)	Number of applications for certificates	..	..	..	46
(2)	Number of decisions not to issue certificates	..	..	..	Nil
(3)	Number of decisions to issue certificates:				
	(a) in respect of some but not all defects	..	..	..	22
	(b) in respect of all defects	..	..	..	26
(4)	Number of undertakings given by landlords under Paragraph V of the First Schedule	..	..	..	6
(5)	Number of undertakings refused by Local Authority under proviso to Paragraph V of the First Schedule	..	..	..	Nil
(6)	Number of certificates issued	..	..	..	52

PART II—APPLICATIONS FOR CANCELLATION OF CERTIFICATES

(7) Applications by landlords to Local Authority for cancellation of certificates	2
(8) Objections by tenants to cancellation of certificates	1
(9) Decisions by Local Authority to cancel in spite of tenants' objection	Nil
(10) Certificates cancelled by Local Authority	1

Housing Act, 1949**Improvement Grants**

23 applications were considered by the Committee; 22 were approved. The value, after deducting items of repair not ranking for grant, was £8,853. 19 of the houses were owner occupied.

This is double the number dealt with last year but still only a trickle compared with the number of houses without bathrooms and eligible for grant aid towards improvements.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

Composition and Labelling of Food and Drugs

152 samples were submitted to the Public Analyst, all were genuine except 3 informal samples which were reported as follows:

	<i>Action taken</i>
Sterilised Milk—contaminated with volatile mineral oil and contained a solid deposit of graphite.	Warning issued to producer to use more care.
Lemon Juice containing preservative—Contained 28 mgs. fl. ozs. of Vitamin C, twice the amount stated to be present.	Manufacturers informed and label amended.
Sparkling Glucose Drink—contained only 30 parts per million of Sodium Benzoate instead of 300 parts per million as claimed.	Manufacturer to amend label.

The full list of articles analysed is:

Apples.	Glucose Powder.	Pepper, White.
Almonds, Ground.	Golden Breadcrumbs.	Pep Tablets.
Baking Powder.	Golden Raising Powder.	P.R. Tablets.
Bakewell Tart Mixture.	Grape Fruit.	Processed Cheese and Bacon.
Beef Dripping.	Ground Nutmeg.	Rich Oat Cakes.
Beef Suet Shredded.	Honeycomb Mould.	Saccharin Tablets.
Bicarbonate of Soda.	Jam.	Sage and Onion Stuffing.
Blanc-mange Powder.	Jelly Table.	Salad Dressing.
Brandy.	Lard.	Salmon, Pink.
Buttermint.	Lemonade Powder.	Sardines.
Cheese Spread.	Lemon Juice.	Sausage.
Cherry Linctus	Lemon Pie Filling.	Soft Drinks.
Cocktail Assortment.	Lung Tonic.	Soup.
Coffee and Chicory Essence.	Marzipan.	Steak and Kidney Pie.
Coffee, Pure.	Metatone.	Sugar.
Crab.	Milk.	Strained Egg Custard.
Crab Paste.	Milk Pudding.	Strawberries.
Cream Sterilised.	Milk, Full Cream Condensed.	Sunny Spread.
Custard Powder.	Milk, Skimmed Condensed.	Mayonnaise.
Curry Powder.	Mixed Spice.	Tea.
Desiccated Coconut.	Mustard.	Tomato Ketchup.
Epsom Salts.	Nutmeg.	Tomato Puree.
Essence of Anchovies.	Pancake Mix.	Vinegar, Malt.
Essence of Rennet.	Paste, Fish and Meat.	Vitamin Tablets.
Flour.	Peeled Shrimps.	Whisky.
Gin.		

Slaughterhouses

The number of animals inspected showed a 20% increase, and in view of the lack of centralisation of slaughtering, it is fortunate that four members of my staff are qualified meat inspectors. This enabled the work to be shared out and prevented undue delays in clearing meat for the butchers. Priority continued to be given to the work and the slaughterhouse owners gave the usual assistance to the inspectors.

TABLE III

	<i>Cattle excluding Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
Number killed	764	156	34	4,810	11,552
Number inspected	764	156	34	4,810	11,552
All diseases except Tuberculosis					
Whole carcases condemned ..	—	—	—	3	7
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	68	28	—	97	1104
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	8.90	18.59	—	2.02	9.64
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcases condemned ..	1	—	—	—	2
Carcases of which some part or organ condemned	24	26	—	—	529
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ..	3.21	16.16	—	—	4.60

Total weight of meat condemned 6-tons. 13-cwts.

Other Foods condemned

Apricots (Tins) .. .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	19
Beans in Tomato (Tins) .. .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	14
Beef (lbs.) .. .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	23
Beef Corned, etc. (Tinned) (lbs.) ..	..	..	..	..	..	249
Carrots (Tins) .. .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Cheese (lbs.) .. .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	230
Cherries (Tins) .. .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Chicken Fillets .. .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	158
Cream (Tins) .. .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	17
Fish (lbs.) .. .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	116
Fish Paste (Tins) .. .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	15
Fish (various) (Tins) .. .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	107
Fruit Salad (Tins) .. .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	17
Grapefruit (Tins) .. .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	12
Ham (Tinned (lbs.) .. .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	246
Jam (lbs.) .. .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	17

Meat (various) (Tins)	..	..	..	..	..	..	135
Milk (Tins)	..	..	..	..	..	..	155
Mutton (lbs.)	..	..	..	..	..	..	18
Oranges (Tins)	..	..	..	..	..	..	58
Peas (Tins)	..	..	..	..	..	..	47
Peaches (Tins)	..	..	..	..	..	..	67
Pears (Tins)	..	..	..	..	..	..	24
Pineapple (Tins)	..	..	..	..	..	..	45
Plums (Tins)	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
Pork (lbs.)	..	..	..	..	..	..	75
Puddings (Tins)	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Sauces	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Soups (Tins)	..	..	..	..	..	..	20
Strawberries (Tins)	..	..	..	..	..	..	11
Sweets (lbs.)	..	..	..	..	..	..	112
Tomatoes (Tins)	..	..	..	..	..	..	66
Tongue (Tinned) (lbs.)	..	..	..	..	..	..	98
Vegetables, Mixed (Tins)	..	..	..	..	..	..	10

Food Hygiene

There are 626 premises where food is stored and sold:

403 shops

16 cafes

44 canteens

163 licensed premises

The Food Hygiene Regulations have been in force since July, 1956 and the work of advising traders on the work necessary to comply was continued.

Court proceedings were found necessary in three blatant cases of non-compliance with the requirements regarding water supply and washing facilities. Fines totalling £28 0s. 0d. were imposed by the Magistrate.

Ice Cream

59 Samples were forwarded for the Methylene Blue Test, the results were as follows:

	<i>Type of Mix</i>	<i>No. of Samples Submitted</i>	<i>GRADES</i>			
			1	2	3	4
Produced within the Urban District	Heat Treated	15	15	—	—	—
	Complete Cold	3	3	—	—	—
Produced outside	Heat Treated	21	21	—	—	—
TOTAL	.. ..	39	39	—	—	—

Ice Lollies

31 samples were submitted for examination. The results are as detailed below:

No. of Samples Submitted	PLATE COUNT PER C.C.			B. COLI CONTENT	
	Under 100	100 to 1,000	Over 1,000	Nil in 0.3 c.c.	Present in 0.3 c.c.
31	27	2	2	27	4

Section 16

This Section requires all ice-cream premises and all premises where the preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food is carried on to be registered. The Council have power to cancel or refuse registration of unsuitable premises.

There are 218 premises on the register:

Ice-cream factories.	..	..	..	..	..	5
Ice-cream shops.	..	..	..	..	..	173
Sausage, etc., factories.	..	..	..	..	..	17
Fish friers.	..	..	..	..	..	23

MILK

There are 2 retail registered dairies and 3 retail milk purveyors within, and 7 dairymen with premises outside the District retailing milk in this area.

One dairy is equipped and licensed for the processing of milk for sale as sterilised bottled milk.

As the Urban District is a Specified Area all milk sold is either tuberculin tested, pasteurised, or sterilised.

Licences were issued as follows:

MILK (Special Designation) (RAW MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949.

Tuberculin Tested—

Supplementary Licences	..	..	..	..	..	4
Dealer's Licences	..	..	..	..	..	1

**MILK (Special Designation) (PASTEURISED AND STERILISED MILK)
REGULATIONS, 1949-1953**

Pasteurised—

Supplementary Licences ..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Dealer's Licences ..	..	..	..	..	..	4

Sterilised—

Supplementary Licences ..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Dealer's Licences ..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Retailing Shopkeepers ..	..	..	..	..	..	190
Dealer's (Steriliser's) Licence ..	..	..	..	..	..	1

One producer retailer licensed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food sells bottled T.T. milk in the area.

Samples are taken regularly to see that the milk conforms to the tests specified in the Regulations. If any milk fails to pass the test the matter is investigated and corrected.

Proceedings were instituted in respect of a bottle of milk produced outside the District, the purchaser having complained of the presence of dirt in the milk. A fine of £15 0s. 0d. was imposed.

Milk produced at the 9 farms in the area is sampled for biological examination for the presence of tuberculosis infection.

Table IV gives details of all milk samples taken.

TABLE IV

MILK SAMPLING—RESULTS OF BACTERIOLOGICAL AND BIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION, 1958

<i>Designation under which sold</i>	<i>Total No. of Samples</i>	<i>Methylene Blue Test</i>			<i>Phosphatase Test</i>			<i>Turbidity Test</i>			<i>Tuberculosis Test</i>		
		<i>Bact.</i>	<i>Biol.</i>	<i>Pass</i>	<i>Fail</i>	<i>Pass</i>	<i>Fail</i>	<i>Pass</i>	<i>Fail</i>	<i>Pass</i>	<i>Fail</i>	<i>Neg.</i>	<i>Pos.</i>
T.T. Past ..	41	—	—	36	1	41	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pasteurised ..	91	—	—	84	1	91	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sterilised ..	33	—	—	—	—	—	—	33	—	—	—	—	—
T.T. (Raw) ..	15	6	14	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—
Ungraded ..	4	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—
TOTAL ..	184	10	138	3	132	—	33	—	10	—	—	—	—

6 samples of Pasteurised Milk and 4 samples of T.T. Pasteurised Milk submitted for Methylene Blue Test were void because of high atmospheric temperature on the day of sampling.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number in Register</i>	<i>Number of</i>	
		<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Occupiers Prosecuted</i>
Factories—			
With Mechanical Power	266	40	Nil
Without Mechanical Power	16	6	Nil
Total	282	46	Nil

The number of factories in the area continues to increase but it was possible to visit only a small number of them. This is unfortunate as nearly half those visited showed some defect requiring attention.

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Number of Defects</i>				<i>Number of offences in respect of which Prose- cutions were Instituted</i>
	<i>Found</i>	<i>Remedied</i>	<i>Referred to H.M. Inspector</i>	<i>Referred by H.M. Inspector</i>	
Want of cleanliness	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation ..	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences:					
Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
Unsuitable or defective ..	18	30	—	—	—
Not separate for sexes ..	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences re- lating to Outwork) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Total	18	30	—	—	—

5 Outworkers lists were received notifying 7 Outworkers.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Rats and Mice destruction is carried out free of charge to house-holders, business premises attract a charge on a cost plus basis. In all 233 dwelling houses plus 97 business premises were treated for minor infestations.

Full details of the work are reproduced from the annual return to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

	<i>TYPE OF PROPERTY</i>			
	<i>Non-Agricultural</i>			
	<i>Local Authority</i>	<i>Dwelling Houses (including Council Houses)</i>	<i>All Other (including Business Premises)</i>	<i>Total</i>
Number of properties in Local Authority's District	9	16,299	2,024	18,332
Number of properties inspected as a result of: Notification Survey Otherwise	— 3 —	268 35 530	— 118 372	268 156 902
Total inspections carried out including re-inspection	17	803	760	1,580
Number of properties inspected which were found to be infested by: Rats—Minor Mice—Minor	2 —	205 28	85 12	292 40
Number of infested properties treated by the L.A.	2	233	97	332
Total treatments carried out including re-treatments	12	247	265	524

Assistance was given to Amblecote U.D.C. when requested.

SHOPS ACT

Details of the shop premises on the register are as follows:

Food Shops .. .. .. .. ..	..	403
Cafes .. .. .. .. ..	..	16
Other Shops .. .. .. .. ..	..	245
Licensed Premises .. .. .. .. ..	..	163

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933—1954

Number of licensed slaughtermen	57
--	----

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

Number of licensed premises	3
--	---

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

Premises registered under this Act.	2
--	---

PETROLEUM ACTS, 1928—1936

Premises licensed	120
Total storage (gallons)	123,750
Fees	£77 5s. 0d.

During the year, a special survey of licensed premises was carried out, and an extract of the report is reproduced.

Storage of petroleum in underground tanks

The following is a summary of the most common items of non-compliance with the Acts or Licensing Conditions:

Fire extinguishing equipment insufficient or badly sited ..	80 premises
Notices absent or unsatisfactory: warning notices near pumps indicating master switch for power to electric pumps ..	38 premises
Numbering of tanks and dipsticks unsatisfactory ..	30 premises
Unsuitable dipstick (of ferrous instead of non-ferrous metal) ..	25 premises
Electric lighting adjacent to pumps not vapour proof ..	2 premises
Vent pipes to tanks unsatisfactory (not adequately secured, of insufficient height or diameter, discharging into building, not fitted with flameproof trap) ..	3 premises
	27 premises

Testing of underground tanks

Tanks which are over 20 years old require testing to ensure they are in sound condition, 11 tanks have been tested this year and 72 still require testing. One of the 11 failed to satisfy the test and the licensee was asked to fill it with liquid cement or have it removed.

Change of use of tanks or discontinuance of storage of petrol

In 13 tanks storage of petroleum had been discontinued and the tanks were empty or were being used to store diesel or gas oil. Only one of the licensees' had notified me that petroleum was no longer stored.

Flameproofing of electrically operated pumps used on underground tanks

There are 108 electric pumps on licensed premises, 69 of these comply with British Standards of Flameproofing Nos. 229 and 889, 9 do not comply but can be modified and 30 do not comply and cannot be modified. Home Office recommendation was that pumps should comply with the Standards of Flameproofing by 1st January, 1960, but where replacement of old pumps by this date would place a severe burden on licensees, it was hoped that Local Authorities would consider whether they should allow some latitude in suitable cases.

Limiting devices or pre-set control on electric pumps

It is desirable that electric pumps should be fitted with either:

- (a) A device limiting the maximum quantity of spirit to be dispensed at any one time to 11-gallons for premises to which the public have access and 30-gallons for premises not open to the public or
- (b) A pre-set control dial which releases delivery of any number of gallons up to a maximum of 20.

Of the 108 electric pumps on licensed premises, 57 are fitted with a limiting device or pre-set control dial. Licensees of the remaining 51 pumps will be asked to consider fitting such a device to their pumps.

Storage of petroleum or petroleum mixture in containers in stores above ground (13 licences to store a total quantity of 998-gallons)

Fire extinguishing equipment was unsatisfactory in two premises and the statutory warning notice needed on the door of stores absent in four instances.

It is a fair comment, I think, to say that dealers in Petroleum Spirit suffer from the problem that "familiarity breeds contempt." Anyone who has seen a petrol fire or who realises the effect of explosion of petrol fumes will realise that irksome as some of the conditions of licence may be, safety first should be the motto.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS, 1958

					<i>Re-</i>	<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Inspections</i>
Housing Act							
Demolition (Sec. 11) ..	..	..	..	..	226	738	
Clearance Areas ..	..	..	..	..	473	257	
Other Visits ..	..	..	..	..	231	61	
Improvement Grants ..	..	..	..	..	70	415	
Rent Act, 1957 ..	..	..	..	..	76	26	
Public Health Act							
Houses ..	..	..	..	..	521	1189	
Council Houses ..	..	..	..	..	2	—	
Overcrowding ..	..	..	..	..	5	12	
Licensed Premises ..	..	..	..	..	57	5	
Schools ..	..	..	..	..	6	—	
Camping Sites, Licensed ..	..	..	..	..	18	2	
Cinemas ..	..	..	..	..	6	—	
Rivers Pollution ..	..	..	..	..	2	2	
Public Conveniences ..	..	..	..	..	40	20	
Drainage (Inspections) ..	..	..	..	..	100	74	
Drainage Tests ..	..	..	..	..	11	—	
Cesspools ..	..	..	..	..	2	2	
Sewers and Street Gullies ..	..	..	..	..	18	1	
Ashes Accommodation ..	..	..	..	..	3	—	
Accumulations ..	..	..	..	..	3	—	
Disinfestation ..	..	..	..	..	7	1	
Infectious Diseases ..	..	..	..	..	163	11	
Swimming Pool ..	..	..	..	..	4	6	

*Re-
Inspections Inspections*

Clean Air Act, 1956

Domestic Premises	..	..	..	..	651	—
Industrial	..	..	..	..	99	—

Factories Act

Factories	..	..	..	..	46	79
Bake-houses	..	..	..	..	3	5
Outworkers	..	..	..	..	10	1

Food and Drugs Act

Market, Food Premises including Ice Cream Retailers and Food Hygiene Regs.	..	..	276	371
Food Preparing Premises	..	..	48	22
Fish Fryers	..	..	12	1
Ice-Cream Manufacturers	..	..	2	—
Milk and Dairies	..	..	5	—
Food Vehicles	..	..	4	—

Bye-Laws

Tents, Vans and Sheds	..	..	..	48	27
Piggeries	..	..	..	3	7
Slaughterhouses	..	..	..	1415	—
Shops Act	..	..	..	8	15
Pet Animals Act, 1951	..	..	..	4	2
Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951	..	..	2	—	—
Petroleum Act	..	..	..	151	76
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949	..	..	39	11	—
Interviews with Owners, Builders, etc. on Property	..	..	415	—	—

Sanitary Improvements carried out as a result of Inspections made and Notices served (Work actually carried out)**Dwelling Houses**

Roofs repaired	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	51
External brickwork repaired	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	20
Rainwater pipes or gutters repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	29
Damp proof courses provided	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Plasterwork repaired	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	75
Firegrates repaired	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Doors repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6

Windows repaired or renewed ..	..	..	..	..	..	36
Floors repaired ..	..	..	..	..	..	8
Staircases repaired ..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Wash-houses repaired ..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Sinks renewed ..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Sink waste pipes repaired or renewed ..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Wash boilers repaired or renewed ..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Water closets repaired ..	..	..	..	..	..	40
Obstructed drains cleared ..	..	..	..	..	..	12
Drains repaired or reconstructed ..	..	..	..	..	..	15

Food Premises

Slaughterhouses limewashed ..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Refrigerator provided ..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Rooms cleaned or repaired ..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Storage accommodation improved ..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Hot water provided ..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Sinks provided ..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Wash basins provided ..	..	..	..	..	..	38
Screens fitted ..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Outside display improved ..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Miscellaneous ..	..	..	..	..	..	10

Shops Act

Forms required to be exhibited ..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Redecoration ..	..	..	..	..	..	2

Factories

Sanitary accommodation cleansed ..	..	..	..	..	..	8
Sanitary accommodation repaired ..	..	..	..	..	..	22
Additional sanitary accommodation provided ..	..	..	..	..	..	—
Miscellaneous ..	..	..	..	..	..	4

Other Nuisances

Caravans removed ..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Accumulations of manure and other refuse removed ..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Miscellaneous ..	..	..	..	..	..	3

PUBLIC CLEANSING

This section of the Report relates to the year ended 31st March, 1959.

Staff

Foreman	..	..	..	1
Male Employees	..	..	..	43
Female Employees	..	..	..	8

These are employed as follows:

			<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Refuse Collection	..	..	24	—
Refuse Disposal	..	..	1	—
Salvage	..	..	3	8
Street Cleansing	..	..	10	—
Gullies and Cesspools	..	..	2	—
Depot, Drains, Public Conveniences				
Rodent Control	..	..	3	—

The number of working days lost by all employees, through sickness or injuries was 995.

The vehicles available to the Department are listed below:

Registration

			<i>Vehicle</i>		<i>Year</i>
MRE	884	S & D Freighter (side loader)	..	..	1946
SRE	742	S & D Freighter (side loader)	..	..	1949
YRF	485	S & D Fore and Aft Tipper	..	..	1953
258	ARF	S & D Fore and Aft Tipper	..	..	1953
407	ERF	S & D Fore and Aft Tipper	..	..	1955
*306	TRF	S & D Fore and Aft Tipper	..	..	1958
DRF	624	S & D Cesspool Emptier	..	..	1936
WRE	752	S & D Gully-Cesspool Emptier	..	..	1951
NRE	136	Lewin Mechanical Road Sweeper	..	..	1947
*401	KRE	Bedford-Lacre Mechanical Road Sweeper	..	..	1956
*19	TRE	Bedford-Lacre Mechanical Road Sweeper	..	..	1957
*9411	E	Austin (4 cu. yd. side loader) Street Cleansing	..	..	1959
34	LRF	Austin Pick-up	..	..	1956
TRE	891	Morris Van (waste paper collection)	..	..	1950
WRF	364	Morris Van (waste paper collection)	..	..	1952
318	JRF	Morris Van (waste paper collection)	..	..	1956
TRE	247	Ford 5-cwt. Van (public conveniences and rodent operative)	..	..	1950
230	DRF	Austin A40 Van (Foreman)	..	..	1954
*		Bray Loader (4-wheel drive) (Tip)	..	..	1958

* Denotes diesel engine

Refuse Collection

The weekly collection of house refuse was maintained throughout the year with the exception of the two weeks set for annual holidays.

The number of premises from which refuse is collected increases from year to year. As forecast in the last report, it was necessary to introduce another collection round for two days per week.

Here I must pay tribute to the men, for since the building of houses was resumed after the war, they have, until this year, coped with the additional bins without addition to the number of men employed. They have been encouraged to do so by an incentive bonus first introduced in 1950 and the Council have during the period raised the bonus per bin by stages from 2½d. to 4d. in appreciation of the men's efforts.

Dustbins are provided free to householders, the cost being charged to the service.

Refuse Team Gangers are responsible for reporting defective bins to the office.

Disposal

All refuse is transported to The Leys where controlled tipping is carried out as recommended by the Ministry of Health. A 4-wheel drive Bray Loader with a full width bucket ably performs the work.

The salvage of tins from the refuse has for years been done by women who have carried out this unpleasant task under very difficult conditions. After reviewing this procedure the Council accepted the recommendation of the Public Health Committee to fit an electro magnet to the Bray Loader to extract tins. This has eliminated the hand sorting of refuse and reduced the cost of the operation.

The tins are baled by an electric press operated by a woman.

The total tonnage of all refuse was:

House Refuse ..	..	..	..	..	11,190
Trade ..	..	..	..	..	718
Road Sweepings ..	..	..	..	..	1,490
					13,398 Tons

Waste Paper Collection

The separate collection of waste paper resulted in 586 tons, value £4,855 being despatched to the Mills, the figures for 1957 were 582 tons and £4,760.

A salvage bonus was adopted during the year in an attempt to meet an expected decrease caused by changes in local industry. While not a huge success it probably helped to maintain the collection at its normal level.

All paper is baled by two electric presses operated by women and loading is assisted by a power loader.

It is unfortunate that the proposal to reduce collection costs by using trailers attached to refuse vehicles ran into difficulties in negotiating bonus terms with the refuse collectors.

Salvage Income		Tons	£
Paper	586	4,855	
Baled Tins	141	1,003	
Metals	11	98	
		—	—
		738	£5,956
		—	—

COST STATEMENT TO THE 31st MARCH, 1959

Collection and Disposal of House and Trade Refuse and Salvage

Particulars	Collection	Disposal	Total
Revenue Account—			
Gross Expenditure—	£	£	£
Labour	12996	3431	16427
Transport	9772	4373	14145
Plant, equipment, land and buildings*	6167	2385	8552
Other items	—	—	—
Total	28935	10189	39124
Gross Income	275	6167	6442
Net Cost	28660	4022	32682
Unit Costs—	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Gross cost per ton—labour only ..	20 9	5 6	26 3
Gross cost per ton—transport only ..	15 7	7 0	22 7
Net cost per ton*	45 10	6 5	52 3
Net cost per 1,000 population* ..	550	77	627
Net cost per 1,000 premises* ..	1681	236	1917

* The cost of providing dustbins, *i.e.* £3,435 is included in Plant, etc., and represents 5s. 6d. per ton, £66 per 1,000 population and £201 per 1,000 premises of the Net Unit Costs.

OPERATIONAL STATISTICS

Area		5,851 acres
Population at 30th June, 1958		52,060
Total refuse collected—actual		12,494 tons
Weight per 1,000 population per day		13.15 cwts.
Number of premises		17,050
Average haul		2.25 miles
Frequency of collection		weekly
Kerbside collection (percentage of total collection)		Nil
Total refuse disposed of		12,494 tons
Method of disposal—controlled tipping		100%
Rateable Value		£570,592
Product of 1d. rate		£1,906
Rate in £ (Collection and Disposal)		1s. 5d.

Street Cleansing

Despite the satisfactory performance of the mechanical sweepers and the daily round of the "Flying Squad," street cleansing presents many problems, not the least of which is that of recruiting suitable men for hand sweeping roads and footpaths.

In an effort to control excessive weed growth caused by the wet summer, liquid weed killer was used for the first time. The success was such that it is now intended to use it regularly.

Although the Litter Act, 1958 raised the fine to £10, irresponsible persons continue to litter the streets and cause unavoidable expenditure on litter collection. This in turn causes higher rates which the very same people probably deplore.

Details of the work of the vehicles is as follows:

	Number of Loads	Weight Tons	Working Days
No. 1 Lewin Sweeper	50	75	35
No. 2 Bedford Lacre Sweeper	381	644	227
No. 3 Bedford Lacre Sweeper	365	765	216
Street sweepings moved by other vehicles	796	1,484	478
	5	6	—
Total	801	1,490	—

Gully Cleansing

The emptying of street gullies is by mechanical means, and proceeded in a routine manner.

COST STATEMENT, 1958-1959

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Street Sweeping and Watering</i>	<i>Street Gully Cleaning</i>	<i>Total</i>
Revenue Account—			
Gross Expenditure—	£	£	£
Labour	3053	322	3375
Transport	3579	1001	4580
Plant, equipment, building, etc.	580	48	628
Other items	—	—	—
Total	7212	1371	8583
Unit Costs—	£	s. d.	s. d.
Net cost per street mile cleansed	100	—	—
Net cost per 1,000 gullies cleansed	—	133	—
Net cost per 1,000 population	139	26	165

OPERATIONAL STATISTICS

Mileage of streets cleansed .. .. .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	71.83
Frequency of cleansing—						
At least once daily .. .. .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	4%
Three to five times weekly .. .. .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	0%
Twice weekly .. .. .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	12%
Once weekly .. .. .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	80%
Less than once weekly .. .. .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	4%
Number of street gullies cleansed .. .. .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	2,280
Number of gully cleansings .. .. .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	10,266
Weight of street and gully refuse .. .. .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	2,273 tons

Vehicle Repairs

The repairs and maintenance of all Council owned vehicles is carried out by this department's mechanics and at the end of the first year the "teething" troubles had been overcome and a routine servicing and maintenance schedule established.

The financial saving will not be apparent for some time but must be reflected in due course as every advantage is taken of trade terms, quantity discounts, etc. The real economy, however, is achieved by the fullest use of the vehicles and the infrequency of breakdowns which the regular servicing and immediate attention to repairs have made possible.

The vehicles operated by the Cleansing Department have been listed, and the following is a list of those in other Departments:

	<i>Registration No.</i>	<i>Vehicle</i>					<i>Year</i>
Housing Department							
WRF	116	Fordson Lorry ..	..	..	..	..	1952
YRF	288	Commer Lorry ..	..	..	..	..	1953
481	DRF	Austin A40 Van	..	..	..	..	1954
Highways Department							
URF	545	Austin 2-ton Lorry	..	..	..	..	1950
387	CRF	Austin 2-ton Lorry	..	..	..	..	1954
722	FRE	Austin 2-ton Lorry	..	..	..	..	1955
755	URE	Austin 2-ton Lorry	..	..	..	..	1958
826	KRF	Austin Van	..	..	..	..	1956
932	SRF	Austin Van	..	..	..	..	1957
*ORF	619	International Bulldozer	..	..	..	..	1948
*380	HRF	Green Road Roller	..	..	..	..	1955
*XRE	140	Bray Hydraloader	..	..	..	..	1952
Parks Department							
MRF	452	John Deer Tractor	..	..	..	..	1947
ONP	298	Ferguson Tractor	..	..	..	..	1955
448	LRE	Austin Pick-up	..	..	..	..	1956
6211	E	Austin 2-ton Lorry	..	..	..	..	1958
Farm							
*411	ARF	Ford 5-ton Lorry	..	..	..	..	1953
*MWP	251	Ferguson Tractor	..	..	..	..	1954
*SRE	370	Ferguson Tractor	..	..	..	..	1957
Library							
83	RRE	Austin Omnivan	..	..	..	..	1957
Cars							
MXO	586	Humber Pullman (Chairman)	..	..	..	..	1952
NFD	168	Ford Prefect (Farm Manager)	..	..	..	..	1952
39	NRE	Ford Popular (Housing Welfare)	..	..	..	..	1955

* Denotes Diesel Engines

Vehicle Repairs (*continued*)

Plant

4 Concrete Mixers	17 Motor Mowers
1 Mortar Mixer	1 Allan Motor Scythe
2 Compressors	1 Lister Stationary Engine

1 Water Pump

OTHER SERVICES

Cesspools

103 cesspools necessitated 203 cleansings.
523 loads were removed at a cost of £526.

Pail Closets

There are 51 pail closets—these are emptied weekly.

Ashpits

Only 3 remain.

Public Conveniences

The old convenience at Pearson Street, Brierley Hill was closed having been replaced by a new one in Cottage Street. Difficulties of maintaining the conveniences in proper working order continued to be due primarily to the wilful and mischievous damage perpetrated by persons unknown. The fact that all conveniences are unattended makes it impossible to control this problem.

The following conveniences are cleansed daily by this Department.

Round Oak, Brierley Hill	Male.
Hill Street, Brierley Hill	Male and Female.
Church Street, Brierley Hill	Male and Female.
Cottage Street, Brierley Hill	Male and Female.
Mill Street, Brierley Hill	Male.
High Street, Quarry Bank	Male and Female.
High Street, Brockmoor	Male and Female.
The Coppice, High Street, Pensnett	Male and Female.
High Street, Pensnett	Male and Female.
High Street, Kingswinford	Male and Female.
Evvile Road, Wall Heath	Male and Female.
Lawnswood Road, Wordsley	Male and Female.
High Street, Wordsley	Male.

C. H. CRAWFORD,

*Chief Public Health Inspector and
Cleansing Superintendent.*

